

NOTICE OF FILING

CAROLINA WATER SERVICE, INC. SEEKS APPROVAL OF FRANCHISE AGREEMENTS WITH RICHLAND COUNTY AND LEXINGTON COUNTY JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER AND SEWER COMMISSION DOCKET NO. 2004-64-S

The Public Service Commission of South Carolina (Commission) has received a Petition filed by Carolina Water Service, Inc. (CWS) for approval of two franchises granted to CWS by Richland County (the County) and the Lexington County Joint Municipal Water and Sewer Commission (LCJMWSC) granting CWS the right and privilege of providing wastewater service in the Friarsgate/Lake Murray areas of these two counties and an Agreement for exchange of customers between the two utilities. The agreements will not directly affect the rates and charges of any customer of CWS in the foreseeable future, and will, over time, generate more customers for the Company because of access to a larger service area. This request is made in accordance with R.103-503 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations.

The proposed agreement between CWS and the County will according to its terms (a) modify and amend certain provisions of the Existing Agreements previously made between the parties dated May 1, 1984, August 9, 1984 and July 29, 1993; and (b) provide for the assignment and exchange of sewer customers and service areas.

The LCJMWSC has granted to CWS an exclusive franchise for a term of forty (40) years with the right and option to extend said term for an additional forty (40) years to operate and maintain sewer facilities and to provide service to all residents and businesses located and locating, within the unincorporated area of Lexington County described as follows: The unincorporated area of Lexington County bounded on the East by the Richland County line; on the West by Irmo Drive; and the South by Gales Road and Chadford Road on the North by State Highway No. 6.

In addition said franchise area shall include the unincorporated area of Lexington County lying on promontories in Lake Murray connected to Richland County by the Salem Church Road peninsula.

A copy of the Petition is on file in the offices of the Public Service Commission of South Carolina, 101 Executive Center Drive, Columbia, South Carolina 29210, and is available through E. Crosby Lewis, Esquire, AUSTIN, LEWIS & ROGERS, P. A., P. O. Box 11716, Columbia, S. C. 29211.

A public hearing may be held in Columbia, South Carolina in the offices of the Commission for the purpose of receiving testimony and other evidence from all interested parties regarding this application. The time and date of this hearing, if scheduled, will be furnished to all interested parties at a later date.

Any person who wishes to testify and present evidence at a hearing, if scheduled, should notify in writing Bruce F. Duke, Executive Director, at the address below and E. Crosby Lewis, Esq. at the previously stated address on or before **April 5, 2004**. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-64-S.*

Any person who wishes to present his views, but is unable or does not wish to appear and testify at a hearing, if scheduled, may do so in writing on or before **April 5, 2004**. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-64-S.*

Any person who wishes to participate in a hearing, if scheduled, as a party of record with the right of cross-examination should file a Petition to Intervene in accordance with the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure on or before **April 5, 2004**. *Please refer to Docket No. 2004-64-S.*

Persons seeking information about the Commission's Procedures should contact the Commission at (803) 896-5113.

BRUCE F. DUKE
Executive Director
Public Service Commission of S.C.
P. O. Drawer 11649
Columbia, S. C. 29211

19 March 2004